THE Trumpet

The monthly newsletter of the Office of the State Fire Marshal

The Trumpet—June 2013

FUN WITH FIREWORKS

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OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
100
1913 - 2013

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From the Fire Marshal

While most people associate "Fireworks Season" with the 4th of July, our office is in full fireworks mode in May and June as every layer of the fireworks industry get their appropriate certifications to do business in the State of Kansas. Our aim is to create a fireproof 4th of July celebration and protect lives and property from unsafe or mishandled fireworks.

While shooting fireworks is a fun way to celebrate Independence Day for many, it's not so fun if you're in the Emergency Room or if a fire truck has to rush to your house to put out a fire.

In this issue of *The Trumpet*, you'll find great tips for having fun with fireworks, while also being safe!

Speaking of staying safe, as we're now in tornado season and on the heels of the horrific tornados that struck the Oklahoma City area, we took a look at Safe Rooms in Kansas. What are they, how should they be built, and how prevalent are they in Kansas? Find out in Jack Chatmon's report on page 8.

As always, remember that your OSFM is ready and willing to be of assistance. Please fee free to contact us anytime via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Doug Jorgensen
Fire Marshal

THE Trumpet
June 2013

Fire Marshal

Doug Jorgensen

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785-296-4290

Our Mission

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is dedicated to protecting the lives and property of the people of Kansas from the hazards of fire, explosion and hazardous materials by fostering a safe environment through education, inspection, enforcement, regulation, investigation, hazardous material incident mitigation, data collection, and by acting as a liaison to the Kansas Fire Service.

All of the efforts of the Office are designed to reduce the deaths, injuries and property losses of Kansans.

Trumpet Deadline

For information on receiving the State Fire Marshal *Trumpet* or to submit your meeting notices, training announcements, articles, photos or other information, please contact Kevin Doel . Photos should be submitted as a .jpg or .tif attachment to an email. All materials are due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

By the Numbers

From 2006-2010, gas grills were involved in an average of 7,100 home fires per year. 83% of grills involved in home fires were fueled by gas. Source: NFPA

92% of all structure fire deaths in US from 2007-2011 resulted from home fires. Source: NFPA

A total of 197 fireworks related injuries were reported by Kansas hospitals in 2012.

HOT NEWS FROM THE OSFM

Congratulations Villa St. Francis!

Members of the OSFM staff attended an Open House to celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated skilled nursing center at Villa St. Francis in Olathe. The center passed its fire inspection with flying colors. Congratulations!

Fireworks Operator Training Conducted

16 members of local fire departments and state investigators attended day-long training on Display Fireworks Operations for Authority Having Jurisdiction in Overland Park, on May 16, 2013.

Haz-Mat Tech Training in Manhattan

Seventeen first responders attended Haz-Mat Tech Training in Manhattan. The class was two weeks in length and each student completed 80 + hours of classroom and hands-on training. The certification to Haz-Mat Technician level is recognized internationally as an educationalal standard.

Welcome Don Jenkins, Chief Boiler Inspector

In March, Gov. Brownback signed into law SB 135, a bill that transfers responsibility for boiler inspections from the Department of Labor to the OSFM. With this new responsibility comes new personnel, including Chief Boiler Inspector Don Jenkins. Don has served as the state's Chief Boiler Inspector since 1996. Don served in the US Navy from 1962 to 1966 on a destroyer. From 1967 to 1982, he worked on the Navajo Reservation firing boilers, and during 12 of those years he was in charge of a high pressure central heating plant. Don also served on the agency volunteer fire department, and for ten years as its Fire Chief. From 1983 to 1995, he served as the Chief Boiler Inspector for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, in Albuquerque, NM.

Learn more about the Boiler Inspection program in upcoming issues of The Trumpet. Welcome aboard Don!

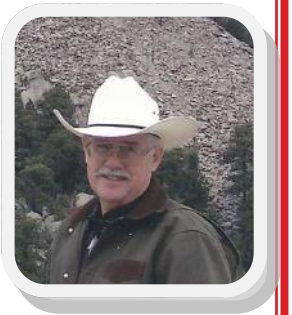
KCTV5 Investigation Reports on School Fire Drills

Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen was interviewed for a KCTV5 investigative report on how Kansas City and Lawrence area schools are complying with the requirement to conduct monthly fire drills.

Of the Kansas districts KCTV5 surveyed, the records show eight schools with missing fire drill reports and another 23 that have skipped two or more drills in the past three years.

"Some schools may find that it's cumbersome to do that once a month," Jorgensen said. "But it's been years since Kansas has had any loss of life at a school from a fire situation."

In Memory of David Lee Yates, 1943-2013



Retired OSFM fire investigator David Lee Yates passed away at May 22 in Mound City, Ks. His family suggests memorial contributions to the Sacred Heart Church in Mound City or Linn County Sharing Bucket.

New OSFM Website Coming Soon!

Coming soon to a computer screen near you! Be on the lookout for a brand new website for our agency! The website will be brimming with easy-to find information, forms and other documents that you'll need for fire prevention and education.

The New Mass Notification Standard: UL 2572

By Jack Poole P.E., FSFPE

Image by AmericanFireTech.com

When the fire protection industry changes and evolves, it normally comes as a reaction to an event. That is the case with mass notification, and the Underwriters Laboratories' (UL) 2572 standard, which was finalized in October 2011.

On 9-11, we experienced a major tragedy that started to raise awareness among policy makers, businesses and society in general about the need for mass notification, the need to be able to warn a lot of people about an emergency situation. And then each Virginia Tech, every Fort Hood, every Ohio school shooting has driven that need home, along with untold hurricanes, floods, tornados and other emergencies.

While the federal government (mainly the Department of Defense) is driving this push for mass notification, the private sector is coming on-board, too. And though there's no code specifically calling for mass notification, that day is coming – particularly now that we have UL 2572 laying out equipment testing and performance standards for the control unit and peripheral equipment.

Mass notification is nothing new, but technology has come a long way. Over the last five years, the industry has begun to incorporate requirements into NFPA 72, using the pervasive fire detection and alarm infrastructure as a vehicle for mass notification.

As the technology began to advance, so did the need for standards. It became apparent we need a control unit to handle all the mass notification features we're looking for, from flashing lights to annunciation, email blasts to text notifications. So the question naturally arose: how will the control unit be manufactured so it has some level of rigor, so it works when we need it to.

UL stepped up to the plate, and wrote a standard that laid out what we're going to demand of these technologies – and how we're going to test them. UL 2572 is similar to UL 864, the standard to test fire alarm control units. UL 2572 is an equipment standard which sets the standards and criteria for how the control units for Mass Notification Systems will be design and tested. Not only will the control units be tested, but all of the peripheral supporting equipment that will be connected to the control units will be tested as a complete system.

This equipment standard, which is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-approved document, covers the construction, performance, operational testing, and production line testing of the control unit plus all components, including the high power speaker arrays and distributed recipient mass notification components. The products covered by UL 2572 are intended to be used in combination with other appliances and devices to form an emergency communication and/or mass notification system. These products are intended to communicate critical information within buildings and/or outdoor areas about emergency situations that may endanger the safety of the occupants of an area or facility.

For now, if there's a property owner that is not required to have a fire alarm system in their building, but wants mass notification, the UL 2572 standard will apply to the technology they may want to use. A stand-alone mass notification control unit can be UL Listed to UL 2572; it doesn't need to be Listed or tested to UL 864.

Once control units get tested to UL 2572, the practicing Fire Protection Engineer (FPE) will then start requiring control units which comply with UL 2572 to be utilized for mass notification systems. If the FPE is designing or specifying a combined and fully integrated fire alarm/mass notification system, then the control unit that is specified should comply with both UL 864 and UL 2572. That way building owners do not need to have two different manufacturers to maintain two different pieces of equipment.

The 2013 edition of NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code*, Chapter 24, *Emergency Communications Systems*, not only references UL 864 when discussing the control units for Emergency Communication Systems, but now also references UL 2572.

Earlier, this article mentioned the private sector is beginning to drive demand for mass notification. There's a market pull, rather than a push.

And there's also the growing threat of litigation over not having a mass notification system in place. As more and more buildings, properties, campuses, etc. are turning to this technology, those that do not are essentially not doing what is "reasonable and prudent" to protect people, to turn a courtroom phrase.

We have the standards, and the technology exists. Emergency communications systems that carry the UL 2572 listing and integrate with a UL-listed fire alarm system, such as Fire-Lite Alarms' Emergency Command Center, have demonstrated proven performance and reliability.

Now it's time to notify the masses!

About the Author: Jack Poole P.E. FSPFE, is a licensed Fire Protection Engineer in 52 states and territories, NFPA 72 Technical Committee Member, and Principal of Poole Fire Protection in Olathe, Kan.

From our Investigation Division:

BATS Notice for Certified Fire Investigators

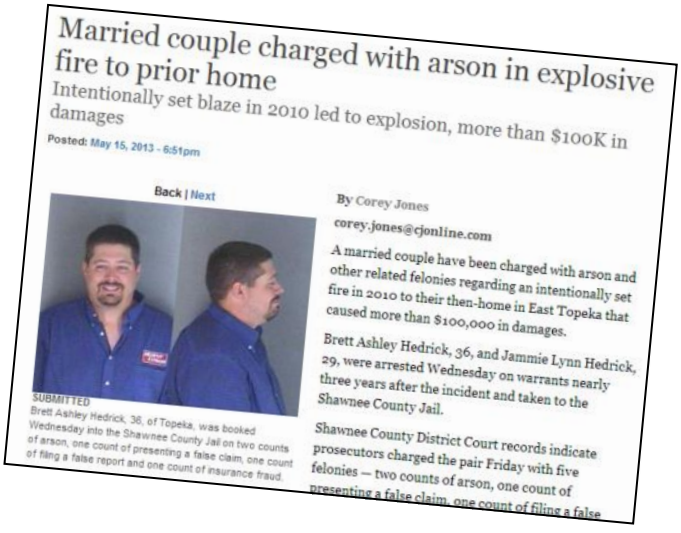
As previously announced by our office, on July 1st, 2013, Certified Fire Investigators will need to begin utilizing the Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) developed by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to report every fire investigation they conduct. We are currently planning training in Overland Park, Wichita and Salina. Below are dates and times that we are offering for the training. Please look over them, and provide our office of your first, second and third preference of the times/dates you can attend. Each certified fire investigator will be required to attend a training session. If you are a Supervisor it is strongly recommended that you also attend the Supervisor Session in addition to a regular session.

June 18, 2013	**June 19, 2013**	**June 20, 2013**
Session 1: 8:00am - 11:30am	**Session 3:** 8:00am - 11:30am	**Session 5:** 8:00am - 11:30am
Supervisor Session: 11:30am - 12:00pm	**Supervisor Session:** 11:30am - 12:00pm	**Supervisor Session:** 11:30am - 12:00pm
Session 2: 1:00pm - 4:30pm	**Session 4:** 1:00pm - 4:30pm	**Session 6:** 1:00pm - 4:30pm
Supervisor Session: 4:30pm - 5:00pm	**Supervisor Session:** 4:30pm - 5:00pm	**Supervisor Session:** 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Please provide us with your top three preferences no later than **June 10th, 2013**. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Carolyn at (785) 296-8984 or carolyn.lowry@ksfm.ks.gov .

News from the OSFM Investigation Division

On May 2, 2013 the members of the Investigation Division attended their bi-annual firearms qualifications and training in Burlington, Kansas. Despite the unseasonably cold weather, everyone qualified. On May 3rd the division also conducted in-service training on the use of our Fire, Explosive, Arson Response Trailer. This trailer is used at major fire or explosive scenes. The trailer and its response will be featured in a later article this year. The investigative staff also conducted training on our use of the BATS reporting system that all state certified investigators will be utilizing starting July 1, 2013.



Married couple charged with arson in explosive fire to prior home

Intentionally set blaze in 2010 led to explosion, more than $100K in damages

Posted: May 15, 2013 - 6:51pm

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By Corey Jones

corey.jones@cjonline.com

A married couple have been charged with arson and other related felonies regarding an intentionally set fire in 2010 to their then-home in East Topeka that caused more than $100,000 in damages.

Brett Ashley Hedrick, 36, and Jammie Lynn Hedrick, 29, were arrested Wednesday on warrants nearly three years after the incident and taken to the Shawnee County Jail.

Shawnee County District Court records indicate prosecutors charged the pair Friday with five felonies — two counts of arson, one count of presenting a false claim, one count of filing a false

SUBMITTED

Brett Ashley Hedrick, 36, of Topeka, was booked Wednesday into the Shawnee County Jail on two counts of arson, one count of presenting a false claim, one count of filing a false report and one count of insurance fraud.

Update on Investigative Cases Worked by Agency Investigators:

- Two arrests were made on an older arson case from 2010 that occurred on Rice Road in Shawnee County.
- An arrest was made on an attempted arson case in Topeka, Kansas.
- The trial started in Reno County for the arson case involving fatalities with the defendant Mr. Seacat.

From our Prevention Division:

Safe Rooms in Kansas

By Jack Chatmon, OSFM Fire Prevention Specialist

Safe rooms, whether in a residential or business setting, are rooms designed to provide near-absolute protection from extreme winds and flying debris that can be generated during events such as tornadoes and hurricanes. Ideal locations for safe rooms include a basement, concrete slab foundation, and 1st floor interior rooms within a building. Using steel for the construction of the doors, walls, ceiling, and floor is recommended over materials such as concrete and fiberglass because it is less susceptible to cracking. If feasible power-driven anchors should be used around the safe rooms' perimeter, also secure the ceiling and wall to the bottom of the structure, and use a minimum 2" dead bolt for the door.

Informational articles for the construction, design, and operation criteria for safe rooms which also include statistics and analysis conducted by nationally recognized engineering research facilities can be found *in FEMA P-320 - Taking Shelter From the Storm: Building a Safe Room For Your Home or Small Business, and FEMA P-361 - Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms.* These articles also provide guidance for design professionals and Code enforcement officials such as architects, engineers, building officials, local officials and emergency managers for the purpose of identifying properly constructed and maintained safe rooms.

Safe rooms are an eligible activity under the HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program). Funding comes from the federal government to the state and then is distributed to applicants (government and non-profit such as cities, counties, schools and groups like the Boy Scouts) who apply for them. Since 2001, 67 million dollars have been spent to build safe rooms in 29 counties in Kansas through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. This includes 205 safe rooms approved (some are still being completed) that all meet "FEMA 361 Construction Guidance" for safe rooms. A total of 168 safe rooms approved since 2001 in Kansas are for schools. The remaining ones are for communities.

As far as the funding being available for communities to apply for them, they can only apply for safe room funds if they have had a federally-declared disaster happen in their community. Through this process under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) states receive a percentage of the total destruction of a single federally-declared disaster event that can go toward preventive measures such as storm shelters.

How Many Safe Rooms Are in Your County?

County	#	Countty	#	County	#
Bourbon	1	Johnson	4	Pottawatomie	1
Butler	13	Kowa	2	Reno	8
Cherokee	2	Labette	1	Rice	1
Cowley	7	Leavenworth	6	Sedgwick	101
Crawford	4	Lyon	3	Shawnee	2
Dickinson	9	Marion	1	Stafford	2
Douglas	4	Meade	1	Stevens	1
Ellis	2	Mitchell	1	Sumner	1
Ellsworth	1	Montgomery	4	Wyandotte	13
Harper	2	Neosho	4		

Source: Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

From our Haz-Mat Division:

Dealing Safely with Garden Pesticides

It's that time of year again to break out garden chemicals and pesticides. These substances or mixture of substances are intended to prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate any pest.

A pesticide is generally a chemical or biological agent (such as a virus, bacterium, antimicrobial or disinfectant) that through its effect deters, incapacitates, kills or otherwise discourages pests.

Pesticides fall into four main categories: herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and bactericides.

Things to think about:

- If you must use pesticides always read the label first and follow the directions to the letter including all precautions and restrictions.
- Purchase only the amount you need this will eliminate the need for disposing of leftover poisonous product.
- Use protective measures when handling pesticides as directed by the label, such as wearing impermeable gloves, long pants and long sleeves. Shower, change clothes and wash the clothes you were wearing immediately after using pesticides.
- Before using pesticides (indoors or outdoors) remove children, their toys, and pets from the area and keep them away until the pesticide has dried or as recommended by the label.
- Remove or cover any foods or dishes before using pesticides inside.
- Be aware of the toxic level signal words on the containers: CAUTION (mildest toxicity), WARNING (more toxic) and DANGER (most toxic). Symptoms of poisoning may be delayed hours or days.
- Follow directions for disposal of empty containers or containers containing leftover chemicals.
- Know the number to poison control 1 -800-222-1222. Have it programmed into your cell phone and posted near any land lines. If you get exposed and need to go the hospital, take an uncontaminated container or label with you.

Beneficial Uses

Pesticides are used to control organisms that are considered to be harmful. For example, they are used to kill mosquitoes that can transmit potentially deadly diseases like West Nile virus, yellow fever and malaria. They are used to control bees, wasps and ants that can cause allergic reactions, contaminate food and make outdoor events unpleasant. They are also used to control rodents in homes, storage facilities, grocery stores and other businesses here they can spread disease.

Herbicides can be used to clear roadside, weeds, trees, and brush. They can be used to kill invasive weeds that may cause environmental damage. Herbicides are commonly applied in ponds and lakes to control algae and plants such as water grasses that can interfere with activities like swimming and fishing and cause the water to look or smell bad.

Insecticides can protect animals from illnesses that can be caused by parasites such as fleas. They can prevent sickness in humans that could be caused by moldy food or diseased produce.

Finally, they can also save farmers money by preventing crop losses to insects and other pests. A recent study found that using pesticides reduced crop yields by about 10%

Health Effects

One the most important things to realize is that pesticides can cause acute and delayed health effects in those who are exposed.

The effects can range from simple irritation of the skin and eyes to severe effects on the nervous system, mimicking hormones causing reproductive problems, birth defects, fetal death, neuro-developmental disorder and even cancers.

In Case of An Emergency

In case of an emergency, try to determine what the person was exposed to and what part of the body was affected before you take action, since the action you take could be as important as taking immediate action. If the person is unconscious, having trouble breathing or having convulsions, give needed first aid immediately. Call 911 or the local emergency number. Remember - act fast!

Fireworks Safety Tips

- Always read and follow label instructions.
- Always purchase high quality fireworks from a reliable, legitimate source.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Adults should always supervise use of fireworks by older children.
- Always wear eye protection when lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks indoors. Make sure your outdoor area is safe for firework use.
- Never point or throw fireworks at a person, building, or animal.
- Have a source of water handy, in case of fire.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Never attempt to re-light malfunctioning fireworks.
- When lighting fireworks, never position any part of your body over them.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Never experiment with homemade fireworks. They are dangerous and illegal.
- Bottle rockets and other skyrockets that are mounted on a stick or wire are illegal.
- It is illegal to shoot fireworks on or under a vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a firework stand or where fireworks are stored, and gas stations or any place liquid gas – including propane – is stored.

Photo by WomansDay.com

Important Information Regarding Sale of Consumer Fireworks

Photo by Caller.com

The term "fireworks" shall mean and include any combustible or deflagrating composition, article, or device suitable for the use of the public for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation and previously approved for transportation by the chemical laboratory of the United States department of transportation.

Fireworks class 1.4G (common or consumer fireworks) means fireworks designed primarily to produce visible effects by combustion. The definition of class 1.4G fireworks is based on the definition of the United States department of transportation of common fireworks (code of federal regulations, title 49, para. 173.100(R)).

All consumer fireworks sold in the State of Kansas must be purchased from a Kansas permitted distributor. The distributor's Kansas permit number shall be identified on the purchase inventory invoice.

Fireworks to be sold at wholesale shall be stored in a room set aside for the storage of fireworks only. Over the entrance to this room shall be posted a sign reading, "FIREWORKS□□NO SMOKING□□KEEP OPEN FLAMES AWAY."

Fireworks shall not be sold or kept for sale in a place of business where paints, oils, varnishes, turpentine or gasoline or other flammable substances are kept in unbroken containers, unless in a separate and distinct section or department of the store. Also, fireworks shall not be stored, kept, sold or discharged within fifty (50) feet of any gasoline pump, gasoline filling station, gasoline bulk station or any building in which gasoline or volatile liquids are sold in quantities in excess of one gallon, except in stores where cleaners, paints, and oils are handled in sealed containers only.

Two approved fire extinguishers must be provided and kept in close proximity to the stock of fireworks in all buildings where fireworks are sold.

Any person, firm or corporation shall not sell fireworks to individuals at temporary retail stands or other locations, or deliver retail fireworks purchased by mail order, before the 27th day of June and after the 5th day of July.

All retailers are forbidden to expose fireworks where the sun shines through glass on the merchandise displayed, except where such fireworks are in the original package, and all fireworks kept for sale on front counters must remain in original packages, except where an attendant is on constant duty at all times at counters were such fireworks are on display: *Provided, however,* That fireworks in open stock may be kept in show cases or counters out of reach of the public without an attendant being on duty. Signs reading, "FIREWORKS FOR SALE□□NO SMOKING ALLOWED," shall be displayed in the section of the store set aside for the sale of fireworks.

For more information, you can refer to the complete state statutes and regulations on Fireworks.

Fireworks Injury Statistics from 2012

For approximately 15 years the Office of the State Fire Marshal has been receiving injury reports from the hospitals throughout the state of Kansas. This is a voluntary reporting program to assist with proper documentation of the types of injuries resulted from the use of fireworks. All the hospitals are notified each year of the voluntary reporting program. We do not receive any information on the victims' identity, only the demographics of the victims and the type of injuries. Included below are the statistics from the 2012 fireworks season.

51% of Kansas hospitals reported a total of 197 fireworks-related injuries in 2012.

By Sex

Males	139
Females	47
Not Listed	11

By Age

Under 5	14
5-10	31
10-13	14
13-18	34
Over 18	103
Not reported	1

By Injury Type

Burns/Asphyxia	6
Burns Only	108
Asphyxia Only	1
Wound, cut, bleeding	38
Dislocation/Fracture	4
Complaint of Pain	3
Other Injury	37

By Type of Fireworks

Firecrackers	53
Bottle Rocket	5
Sparkler	14
Roman Candle	7
Public Fireworks Display	3
Other / Unknown	115

"9 Fires" Documentary Tells Stories of Nine Campus Fires

The 9 Fires documentary (www.mingerfoundation.org/9-fires) is the story of nine campus-related fires across the nation that happened within a three week period in January and February 2012. It tells "the rest of the story," of the impact that these fires had on the families, the survivors, the schools and the community. The nine fires include residence halls, off-campus, laboratory, sprinklered and unsprinklered buildings. Some were successes, others were tragedies, but taken together, they provide compelling examples of the consequences of these fires after the headlines fade.

Created by the Michael H. Minger Foundation (www.mingerfoundation.org) and Campus Fire-watch (www.campus-firewatch.com), this video is available free of charge because of very gener-ous donations. It can be streamed online or downloaded, either in its entirety or in chapters focusing on residence halls, off-campus and laboratory fires, at www.mingerfoundation.org/9-fires. A poster is also available at the web site to use in promoting the video.

Technology & Documentation

By Seth Toomay, OSFM Fire Prevention Specialist

In this world, we are seeing technology making great strides to make our lives better and easier. We are seeing this more and more in the fire service. Computers and newer fire detection devices are getting so smart, that sometimes we don't need to do anything except look, listen, and then push a button.

While a lot of us are doing more with less, we still have the need to document what is happening. Sometimes we see and hear of those who try to sell their equipment with, "You do not need to document it because the device will store that information for you, and all you need to do is push a button and there it is." Please be careful that you do not be deceived by this. All of the codes that require testing will also require documentation to be maintained on-site for inspectors to review.

One such device we are seeing more of is a newer fire alarm system. Most of these fire alarm systems are called "fully addressable systems". These systems can do almost all of the required testing themselves and even tell you in advance when a smoke detector is getting dirty and needs to be cleaned to be in sensitivity range. We have heard many times a facility manager tell us that they do not need to document for the system remembers all of its testing and can be reviewed on a computer screen or monitor.

While this type of system may come with printers to print reports, some facilities don't buy the printers due to the cost. Remember, if a malfunction or system failure occurs, your test results could and probably will be erased and will be no longer available, and this will be cited as a deficiency. Many times we see facilities go into a fire watch situation due to a lighting strike that hits the fire alarm system, or a component becomes defective and thus causes the system to fail or not operate properly.

It is so important to document on paper and maintain this documentation for inspectors, and in some cases investigators, to prove that the system is being maintained in proper working order.

Another device is the emergency generator. Some of the newer units have computers built in to monitor electrical current, engine performance, and even fluid levels. Once again, we need to document these levels and performances as required by the code for references.

One of the smartest actions we have seen is a facility or organization maintain two sets of records to aid in the reliability and monitoring of record keeping. Although we cannot require this, it has been very instrumental in keeping records accurate and up-to-date. Remember, we can no longer allow the facility to call the service vendor to fax over a copy of a report when a document is missing. This report needs to be maintained at the facility and available for review. The old saying is still true today: "If it's not documented, it did not happen."

One most- asked question is how long does a facility need to maintain the documentation. We ask that you retain at least five years of documentation. Most inspectors will review documentation for the previous year or from the last inspection to present inspection. Remember, the facility is responsible for their systems, having these systems tested by the proper certified and/or licensed vendor, and maintaining documentation of the testing of these systems.

The Office of The State Fire Marshal wants everyone to be safe, and maintain good facilities so in the event of an incident, your facility will be prepared to act and keep people from possible harm. If you have any questions, you can call your inspector or the main office in Topeka.

Support the Fallen Firefighter Memorial

In 2001 legislation was signed that authorized the construction of a memorial to be built on the Capitol grounds in Topeka to honor Kansas firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

A scaled replica is housed at the Office of the State Fire Marshal where it is on view. The OSFM also transports the replica to fire service events across the state.

Please send your tax deductible donation to:

Firefighters Memorial Fund
Attn: Eldred Wenger, DFM
700 SW Harrison, Room 1015
Topeka, KS 66603